THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) In December, 2001, M/s. Mirant Asia Pacific Limited (MAPL) (formerly known as Southern Energy Asia-Pacific Limited), one of the Developers with whom Power Trading Corporation of India Limited (PTCIL) had signed the Development Agreement for the 3960 MW Hirma Mega Power Project in Orissa, announced their withdrawal from development of the project. M/s. Reliance Power Limited (RPL), the other co-developer, have shown interest to continue developing the project. The petition filed by MAPL before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) for review of the latters tariff order issued in September, 2000 has been dismissed by CERC vide its order dated April 29,2002. CERC, in its order, has also observed that the tariff decided by the Commission in its orders of 5.9.2000 and 26.9.2000 cannot be revived, which has lapsed by efflux of time.

(b) and (c) Financial viability of the project would depend upon the competitiveness of tariff and an acceptable Payment Security Mechanism. The following States had agreed to off-take power from the Hirma project:

Rajasthan	-	1200 MW
Punjab	-	960 MW
Gujarat	-	700 MW
Madhya Pradesh	-	600 MW
Haryana	-	500 MW

PTCIL has been negotiating with the off-taking States for finalization of the Power Purchase Agreements. However, the Payment Security Mechanism for mitigating the payment risks has been a major issue in view of the present financial condition of SEBs/Utilities.

Requirement of Power in U.P. and Delhi

† 1572. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of power in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi during the year 2002-2003;

(b) the quantum of power being produced by the existing power plants in the said states;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the requirement of power will be met in these states through the existing power plants; and

(d) if not, the arrangement made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTIMEHTA): (a) The anticipated energy requirement in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi during the year 2002-03 (actual up to June, 2002 and anticipated for July, 2002-March, 2003 as estimated by CEA) would be 49385 MU and 20624 MU respectively.

(b) and (c) The total generation from the existing power plants of UP and Delhi together with availability from central sector generating stations in the Northern Region against their allocated shares including assistance from neighbouring Eastern Region and other sources during the year 2002-2003 are estimated to be 43223 MU for UP and 20495 MU for Delhi. Thus, the overall energy availability in UP and Delhi during the year 2002-2003 is anticiapted to fall short of requirement by 6162 MU (12.5%) and 129 MU (0.6%) respectively.

(d) In order to mitigate the shortages in UP and Delhi the following actions have been taken:

U.P: Renovation, Modernisation and life extension schemes of old generating units have been taken up for improved performance from the existing plants. Energy conservation, load management etc., are other measures to meet the requirement. The State Government may strengthen its financial position so that it can avail additional power from the central sector stations.

Delhi: The power shortage in Delhi is experienced mainly during peak summer and peak winter months due to increased weather beating loads. Action plan had already been prepared to meet the power requirement of Delhi during summer months of 2002. Increased allocation from the unallocated quota of central sector stations in the Northern Region and other sources is also made to Delhi to meet its increased requirement from time to time besides assistance from other sources under bilateral arrangements. During April-June, 2002 the power supply position in Delhi was by and large comfortable with marginal energy shortage of 1.7%. However, due to delayed monsoon and consequent increase in power

requirement in Delhi the energy shortage increased to 3.1% during the first fortnight of July, 2002.

Power stations under construction in Delhi and U.P.

† 1573. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power stations under construction in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi for the last three years; and

(b) by when each of the stations is likely to be completed together with the total amount likely to be incurred on the said power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTIMEHTA): (a) and (b) The details of thermal power projects which are under construction during the last three years in U.P. and Delhi are given as under:

Name of the	Capacity	Actual/Exp. Date Commissioning	Estimated/appro cost
Rihand STPS St. Unit3&4(NTPC)-	2x500 MW	U-3—August, U-4—May, 2006	Rs. 4049.50
Pragati CCPP GT U-1 *&2* + ST	GT-+ST-121.18MW	GT-I—on -15.3.2002 GT-II—November/ December, 2002 ST-December,	Rs. 1077.30 crore

New Rules for State Electricity Regulatory Commissions

1574. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in the process of making new rules for State Electricity Regulatory Commissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the new rules are likely to be promulgated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Electricity Regulatory,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.